IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-16 (Canceled).

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A method for triggering and controlling lateral buckling of underwater pipelines by installation of supporting systems positioned in certain points of [[the]] a seabed, the method comprising:

tilting upper surfaces of [[the]] supports[[,]] on which the pipelines rest[[,]] with respect to [[the]] a horizontal plane, and transversally with respect to [[the]] a direction of the pipelines,

wherein the tilting creates a lateral force acting on the pipelines, in relation to a weight of the pipelines and an inclination angle of the upper surfaces, which predetermines a direction of transversal movement of the pipelines on the upper surfaces of the supports.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 17, further comprising:

installing the supporting systems in certain points of the seabed;

laying underwater pipelines by resting the pipelines on the upper surfaces of the support.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 18, wherein the underwater pipelines are rested on the upper surfaces of the support and ~~also have~~ include funnels formed by structures present around a higher end of a carrying structure of the support.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 19, wherein at least part of the structures present [[at]] around the higher end of the carrying structure are removed after the pipelines have been rested on the upper surfaces.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein the inclination angle of the upper ~~surface~~ surfaces with respect to the horizontal plane ranges from 3 to 30°.

Claim 22 (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 21, wherein the inclination angle ranges from 5 to 15°.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein the upper ~~surface~~ surfaces of the support [[has]] have a constant inclination.

Claim 24 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein the upper ~~surface~~ surfaces of the support [[has]] have a varying inclination in one or more points.

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein the upper ~~surface~~ surfaces of the support ~~includes~~ include a succession of sections with a varying inclination alternating with horizontal stretches.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 17, wherein a final section of the upper ~~surface~~ surfaces of the support [[is]] are counter-inclined.

Claim 27 (Canceled).

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The ~~support~~ method according to claim [[27]] 17, wherein the upper ~~surface is~~ surfaces are coated with material having a defined friction coefficient.

Claims 29-32 (Canceled).